14/E.O.T.
PATENT

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Attorney Docket No.: 16303-005310US

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

on 12-5-00

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Livla Sheffer

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Sean C. Semple, et al.

Application No.: 09/122,588

Filed: July 23, 1998

FOR THE DELIVERY OF NUCLEIC

ACID CATALYSTS

Examiner: M. Schmidt

Art Unit: 16

1635

PETITION TO EXTEND TIME

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants petition the Assistant Commissioner of Patents to extend the time for response to the Office Action dated June 5, 2000 for 3 months, from September 5, 2000 to December 5, 2000. An appropriate response in the form of an Amendment is enclosed herewith.

Please charge the fee of \$445 to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to the above deposit account. This petition is submitted in triplicate.

12/08/2000 SLUANG1

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TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor San Francisco, California 94111-3834 Tel: 415-576-0200, Fax: 415-576-0300

EGW:lls SF 1165704 v1 Respectfully submitted.

Eugenia Garrett-Wackowsk Reg. No. 37,330